

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-8 and add new Claims 9-11, as indicated below.

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A computer-implemented method for facilitating ~~[[the]]~~ an automated redemption of an unused ticket, comprising ~~[[the]]~~ steps of:

setting, via a computer system, an aging period;

identifying, via a computer system, ~~[[the]]~~ a scheduled date of an issued ticket ~~for~~
~~selected purchasers;~~

adding, via a computer ~~[[a]]~~ system, the aging period to the scheduled date and, if the scheduled date plus the aging period is earlier than ~~[[the]]~~ a current date, determining, via a computer system, whether the ticket has been used;

if the ticket has not been used, identifying the ticket as an unused ticket;

calculating, via a computer system, ~~[[the]]~~ a redemption value of ~~[[said]]~~ the unused ticket; and

notifying at least one of a client travel agency and a client of ~~[[said]]~~ the unused ticket.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~[[the]]~~ a step of processing, by ~~[[said]]~~ the client travel agency, a refund of ~~[[said]]~~ the unused ticket.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the step of notifying ~~a client travel agency of said unused ticket~~ includes notifying ~~[[a]]~~ the client travel agency by submitting a report of unused tickets.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of collecting ticket data from a financial transaction account, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the ticket data is used to determine ~~[[said]]~~ an issued ticket for any of a plurality of selected purchasers.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the ticket is at least one of a paper ticket and an electronic ticket.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of separating non-refundable tickets.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 1,

wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the ticket is an electronic ticket ~~comprises that includes~~ a plurality of data fields, and

wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the step of calculating, ~~via a computer system, comprises the steps of~~ includes communicating ~~[[said]]~~ the plurality of data fields to a customer service tool and receiving ~~[[a]]~~ the redemption value from ~~[[said]]~~ the customer service tool.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the step of identifying ~~the ticket as an unused ticket~~ is based upon an analysis of at least one of a client travel agency database and a global distribution system.

Claim 9 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the ticket corresponds to any of a plurality of selected purchasers.

Claim 10 (new): A computer system comprising a processor and a memory storing control logic for causing the processor to perform a method for facilitating an automated redemption of an unused ticket, wherein the control logic includes:

first computer-readable program code for causing the processor to set an aging period;

second computer-readable program code for causing the processor to identify a scheduled date of an issued ticket;

third computer-readable program code for causing the processor to add the aging period to the scheduled date and, if the scheduled date plus the aging period is earlier than a current date, determining whether the ticket has been used;

fourth computer-readable program code for causing the processor to, if the ticket has not been used, identify the ticket as an unused ticket;

fifth computer-readable program code for causing the processor to calculate a redemption value of the unused ticket; and

sixth computer-readable program code for causing the processor to notify at least one of a client travel agency and a client of the unused ticket.

Claim 11 (new): A computer program product comprising a computer-usable medium having control logic stored therein for causing a computer to perform a method for facilitating an automated redemption of an unused ticket, wherein the control logic includes:

first computer-readable program code for causing the computer to set an aging period;

second computer-readable program code for causing the computer to identify a scheduled date of an issued ticket;

third computer-readable program code for causing the computer to add the aging period to the scheduled date and, if the scheduled date plus the aging period is earlier than a current date, determining whether the ticket has been used;

fourth computer-readable program code for causing the computer to, if the ticket has not been used, identify the ticket as an unused ticket;

fifth computer-readable program code for causing the computer to calculate a redemption value of the unused ticket; and

sixth computer-readable program code for causing the computer to notify at least one of a client travel agency and a client of the unused ticket.